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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of: )  
Akira ISHIKAWA ) Examiner  
Serial No. 10/827,534 ) Group Art Unit:  
Filed: April 20, 2004 )  
For: SEMICONDUCTOR ELEMENT, SEMICONDUCTOR... )

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
220 20<sup>th</sup> Street S.  
Customer Window, Mail Stop \_\_\_\_\_  
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03  
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby submit the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, a copy of each of the documents cited is enclosed.

The documents are being submitted within three (3) months of the filing of this application or entry into the national stage of this application, or before the first Office Action on the merits, whichever is later, therefore no fee or certification is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

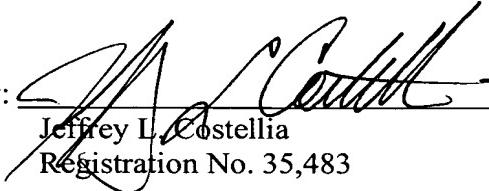
Applicant wishes to bring to the Examiner's attention that U.S. Patent Nos. 5,576,556 and 6,624,477 B1 and U.S. Publication Nos. 2002/0011627 A1 and 2003/006414 A1 are in the same family as Japanese Patent No. JP-3252990. In addition, U.S. Patent Nos. 5,627,384; 5,897,344; 5,643,826; 5,923,962; 6,335,541 B1; and 6,285,042 B1 are in the same family as Japanese Patent No. JP-3375681. The above noted references appear on the attached PTO-1449.

It is requested that the accompanying PTO-1449 be considered and made of record in the above-identified application. To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner initial a copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees connected with this filing which may be required now, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-2380.

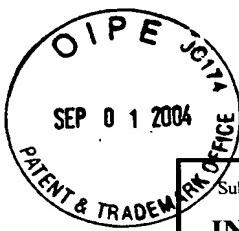
Respectfully submitted,

By:

  
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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/827,534
				Filing Date	April 20, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Akira ISHIKAWA
				Art Unit	
				Examiner Name	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	740756-2724

### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US-5,576,556	11/19/1996	Takemura et al.	
		US-5,627,384	05/06/1997	Teramoto et al.	
		US-5,643,826	07/01/1997	Ohtani et al.	
		US-5,897,344	04/27/1999	Teramoto et al.	
		US-5,923,962	07/13/1999	Ohtani et al.	
		US-6,285,042 B1	09/04/2001	Ohtani et al.	
		US-6,335,541 B1	01/01/2002	Ohtani et al.	
		US-6,624,477 B1	09/23/2003	Takemura et al.	
		US-2002/0011627 A1	01/31/2002	Takemura et al.	
		US-2003/0006414 A1	01/09/2003	Takemura et al.	

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		JP-08-078329	03/22/1996	OTANI		AB
		JP-10-112512	04/28/1998	TAKI		FULL
		JP-3030367	02/10/2000	CHIYOU et al.		AB
		JP-3252990	11/22/2001	TERAMOTO et al.		AB
		JP-3375681	11/29/2002	TERAMOTO et al.		AB

### OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.